

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 163204
ORIGIN FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 A-01 ISO-00 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 AF-10
ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11 SIG-03 MMO-01 AID-05
ICA-20 PC-05 CIAE-00 AGRE-00 DODE-00 COME-00 /106 R

DRAFTED BY A/FBO:PJWALLS:JAW
APPROVED BY A/FBO:WLSLAYTON
A:RFAULK(PHONE)
A/SY/FO:MKDALTON(PHONE)
OC/S:DLACHMAN(PHONE)
-----056134 272136Z /61

R 271740Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 163204

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD,ASEC

SUBJECT:FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

1. DURING THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED REQUESTS FROM POSTS FOR FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS AND FIRE RESISTANT SUITS. SOME OF THESE REQUESTS ARE BASED ON THE POSTS' DESIRE TO FORM FIRE-FIGHTING TEAMS OF THEIR OWN PERSONNEL TO EITHER SUPPLEMENT OR REPLACE LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

2. THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT APPROVED THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT OF THIS TYPE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

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A) IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY THAT, IN DEALING WITH A FIRE, EFFORTS BE DIRECTED TO THE SAFE EVACUATION OF ALL PERSONNEL FROM THE BUILDING. THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE IS OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE WHEN COMPARED TO THE PROTECTION OF PROPERTY. THIS IS NOT TO INFER THAT EFFORTS SHOULD NOT BE MADE BY PERSONNEL PRESENT AND AVAILABLE TO EXTINGUISH MINOR FIRES THAT MIGHT OCCUR BUT, USING GOOD

JUDGMENT, SUCH EFFORTS SHOULD ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN WITH MINIMAL RISK OF BURNS OR INJURY AND, IN NO CASE, WITH RISK TO LIFE.

B) FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL, WHETHER FSL OR AMERICAN EMPLOYEES, ARE NOT PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS. FIRE FIGHTING IS A HIGHLY SPECIALIZED PROFESSION WHICH DEMANDS A GREAT DEAL OF TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE. TO FORM A FIRE FIGHTING TEAM OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL, AND EXPECT IT TO PROVIDE PROTECTION CAN BE AN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS UNDERTAKING AND IS NEITHER EXPECTED NOR CONDONED.

C) THE INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MARINE CORPS SPECIFICALLY SETS OUT THE DUTIES OF THE MSG AT POST. FIGHTING FIRES, EXCEPT FOR THOSE WHICH CAN BE CONTAINED WITHOUT RISK TO LIFE, IS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS AGREEMENT.

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3. POSTS ARE URGED TO REVIEW REGULARLY THEIR MAINTENANCE AND HOUSEKEEPING PROCEDURES SO THAT FIRES CAN BE PREVENTED. ATTENTION TO THESE SEEMINGLY MINOR DETAILS CAN PREVENT INJURIES TO EMPLOYEES AND PROPERTY LOSSES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: PJWALLS:JAW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D780266-0772
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780615/aaaaamxf.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 3072e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN FBOE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2190709
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT
TAGS: ABLD, ASEC
To: ALL POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3072e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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